Savings Organisation and allow it to function along with State run savings organisations in view of its successful functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The net small savings collections since the beginning of the First Five Year Plan have been showing an upward trend. This has been due to the combined efforts of the various agencies of the Central Government including the National Savings Organisation and the State Governments

(b) The National Savings Organisation has broadly achieved the objectives for which it was set up.

(c) and (d) There is, at present, no proposal to close the National Savings Organisation.

Level of expenditure on Savings Organisations under State Governments

5 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) what is the comparative figures of expenditure on savings organisations by the States in comparison to Central Government's expenditure on National Savings Organisation, Statewise;

(b) what is the amount of expenditure borne by the Central Government on small savings organisations run by the States,

(c) what are reasons for Central expenditure on State-run small savings organisations when there is a National Savings Organisation under the Central Government,

(d) how the function of National Savings Organisation would be performed in case the organisation is wound up, and

(e) whether it is a fact that the pay scale and expenditure on officers of National Savings Organisation at District levels is far lower than their counterparts under the State Governments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH). (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The Central Government is not bearing any expenditure on the small savings organisations run by the States.

(d) There is no proposal to wind up the National Savings Organisation.

(e) There is no uniform pattern in the set up of the Savings Organisations run by the State Governments. A comparison with the district set up of the National Savings Organisation is not possible.

Representation against uniform policy for import of dates from Gulf countries

6. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any representations from the Amritsar Border Traders' Association, Amritsar regarding adopting a uniform policy for import of dates from Gulf countries; if so, the details thereof, and

(b) the decision taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL). (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A representation has been received from the Amritsar Border Traders' Association, Amritsar, requesting permission for import

of dates under OGL by land route. However, it has not been found possible to agree to this request, in the interest of Indian Sailing Vessels Industry and our bilateral trade relations with Gulf Countries.

Defects in EOU Scheme

7. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from Confederation of 100 per cent export units pointing out the defects in the EOU scheme adversely affecting even the approved Export Oriented Units;

(b) if so, what are their suggestions to improve the performance of Export Oriented Units; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove the difficulties faced by EOUs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL). (a) Confederation of 100 per cent Export Units has been making suggestions in regard to the 100 per cent EOU Scheme, from time to time

(b) The suggestions, among others, relate to customs procedures and problems and also regarding grant of CCS to 100 per cent EOUs, as are applicable to units in the Domestic Tariff Area.

(c) The problems relating to Customs have been taken up with Department of Revenue at appropriate levels and that Department is examining the suggestions made by the Confederation. Their suggestions for grant of full CCS, instead of 50 per cent of the normal rate, has been agreed to recently, subject to the condition that at least 75 per cent of the raw materials used are of indigenous origin.

Wage agreement with MOIL Kamgar Samyuktha Morcha, Nagpur

8 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE. Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3407 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th September, 1990 and state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from MOIL Kamgar Samyuktha Morcha, Nagpur protesting against the 'Wage agreement' arrived at on 14-2-90 between the Management of Manganese Ore India Ltd. and the Rashtriya Manganese Mazdoor Sangh, and

(b) if so, what corrective steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No corrective steps are called for

Foreign banks operating in the country

9. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) what is the number of foreign banks operating in the country at present alongwith the number of branches of each bank; and

(b) what are the profits earned by each of them from their operations in the country during the last two years, yearwise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Information relating to the number of branches of foreign banks operating in the country and the profits earned by them during the period ending March, 1989 and March, 1990, as reported by the Reserve bank of India, is given in the Statement